

HERNE & BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Herne & Broomfield Parish Council Environment & Leisure Committee held at the Herne Centre, on Thursday 16th July 2026 at 7.30pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present:

Cllr Maslin (Chairman)

Cllr Binstead

Cllr Davis

Corrina Collins (Footpath Warden)

Joanne McCann (Assistant Parish Clerk)

026/26 To receive apologies for absence and accept reasons.

Apologies received from Cllr Davison and Cllr Moss and they were accepted.

027/26 To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda.

None

028/26 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd April 2026.

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

ADJOURNMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

To allow members of the public to speak about items on the agenda.

No members of the public were present.

029/26 To receive a report from the Assistant Clerk, including any correspondence.

Report was circulated prior to the meeting.

The four new half barrel planters have been ordered and paid for, we are hoping they will be delivered before the autumn ready for some winter planting.

The benches for Broomfield Community Park have been ordered from the National Lottery Funding and now we are hoping to progress the meadow. We will be looking for volunteers in September to carry out a working group to sow the new seeds and clear old grass etc. The A0 information panel is due to delivery at the end of July, so we hope to have it installed in August. The Pantaloons have asked to come back in 2027 to perform Dracula, they operate a 70/30 split in their favour – it is low risk for us, and we have the bar sales. The last Pantaloons performance gave us a profit of £494.75. I would suggest this would be a favourable show with a good uptake.

There has also been a suggestion of trying a murder mystery night, with Cllr White involved with an acting group we thought this may offer a difference to our usual April quiz. They seem very popular and with a limited offering in east Kent we think this may do quite well.

We had another Parish quiz last Friday with 91 people attending. This made £1049 profit for the Parish. It is popular and we hope the Council will support this continuing for 2027.

Please see below some lunch club figures:

Month	Cost	Jackie	cost per head	Income	Profit after deductions
January	72.41	80	£2.50	232	79.59
February	136.57	80	£4.41	247	30.43
March	125.42	80	£4.48	219	13.58
April	102.98	80	£3.55	232	49.02
May	121.27	80	£4.18	229	27.73
June	41.95	0	£1.68	200	158.05
July	134.14	80	£4.06	£264	49.86
Total profit					£408.26

This is again proving popular with some of the attendees now using the café more regularly. We are aware that some people live alone are worried to attend on their own or just see it for those on low incomes – I would like to dispel some of those myths so I thought it would be nice to do an article in the next newsletter. We can interview an attendee who comes alone and explain a bit more to reassure people.

The application for the free sports sessions is proving very popular, and we hope to allocate spaces in as fairer way as possible so we can help as many children / families as we can. Priority is given to those living in the parish or attending local schools.

Barn Dance is selling well, currently 35 tickets have been sold which covers the cost of the band. Cllr Maslin clarified that the figures for the lunch club still look good and we will then review the prices at the end of the year when we have a full set of figures.

The Committee agreed to re book the Pantaloons for next year on the same 70/30 split.

The Murder Mystery was discussed as Cllr Davis was concerned that our 50/50 split would have to have the hall hire deducted from it- £260. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that we would have the bar takings and a raffle if we wanted so should do well out of the event. It was agreed to try it and review after.

030/26 To discuss upcoming events:

27th September – Thank you tea

The Assistant Clerk confirmed invitations would be sent out shortly by the admin assistant. It was agreed that Cllr Davis would double check the invite list to ensure all helpers and volunteers were on the invited. It was agreed to order sandwich platters from Sainsburys and arrange cakes from the café. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

2nd October – Barn Dance

The Assistant Clerk confirmed the deposit for the band had been paid and the booking form completed. It was agreed that people may bring in food, but all drink purchased at the bar. Cllr Davis asked if children's tickets were half price – it was agreed to keep all tickets at £10 but review as necessary with regards to small children and babies.

4th October – Scarecrow Trail

The Assistant Clerk advised that this is all in process, that Bookshare are organising the forms and will co-ordinate entries and we will produce the map. Currently there is little that needs organising.

8th November – Remembrance Sunday

It was discussed that in previous years the road closure has been organised by former County Cllr Marsh, so we will need to find out how to organise this. With regards to a bugler it was suggested about contacting local cadet groups to see if we could find someone for last post or ask Cllr Wilson if he was aware of anyone. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

031/26 To approve dates for 2027 events.

A list of dates was circulated before the meeting and were agreed for 2027.

032/26 To discuss Sarah Jayne memorial sign and official unveiling

The Assistant Clerk stated that she had spoken to Sarah-Jayne's family and agreed that we would do an official unveiling in early September, giving us time to get the sign in place. It is due for delivery week commencing the 27th July. It was agreed to have the ceremony on Friday 4th September at 10am. The Assistant Clerk stated she would attempt to get the Lord Mayor in attendance. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

033/26 To receive update on Santa Float repairs

Cllr Maslin advised that he had been in discussion with Mr Blatherwick about repairs. They will visit and look at it during August, but they are aware that it will need some welding as well as repair and painting which will be a cost. It was suggested once we are at the painting stage we have a working party to carry out the work. Cllr Maslin also suggested adding some clear Perspex to the float to protect from wind and rain. There was also a suggestion that Cllr Davison may offer to store the float. **Action: Cllr Maslin**

034/26 To discuss any environmental issues.

Cllr Davis reported she had heard that some oak trees have been marked with blue paint in East Blean woods and they were due to be ringed to create standing dead wood. Cllr Davis was concerned we had not been informed about it, with oak's being the best native tree for wildlife. East Blean woods are a SSSI, National Nature Reserve and ancient woodland. There is also a danger of dead wood falling onto those walking past. The Assistant Clerk reported she had sent some questions to Kent Wildlife Trust and was awaiting a response.

The Assistant Clerk reported that after speaking to the BMX Club after receiving a report that the track was at its "end of life" it was confirmed that a lot of work is required. This has come as a bit of a surprise as we had not been made aware of this. The BMX Club has been asked to provide a list of work that is required and what they have completed in way of maintenance so that the Parish Council can look at obtaining grants – if required – or allocate funds for repairs / replacement. It was agreed that in future meetings going forward a representative would be asked to attend so we can be kept informed of any issues. Cllr Binstead asked if the plastic guards covering the dead whips could be moved from Broomfield Community Park, Cllr Davis stated that they could. **Action: Assistant Clerk**

035/26 Members reports.

Mrs Collins reported that there was a lot of overgrown paths now, especially by the schools and Little Acorns nursery and wondered if they had been reported. The Assistant Clerk stated they had been reported to KCC Public Rights of Way team and were awaiting cutting. It was suggested that we contact County Cllr Mulvihill to see if he could get these expedited.

Cllr Binstead asked if the litter could be removed from the electricity station at Cherry Orchard, the Assistant Clerk will contact them to see if it could be cleared. She also suggested that we should have a presence at the fun day and consider something we could sponsor for next year. Cllr Binstead also suggested a carnival or procession in the Parish to give us more of a public presence. Cllr Davis suggested a picnic or fun day at Broomfield Community Park next year would maybe more attainable. Cllr Binstead suggested possible artisan market at the windmill.

Action: Assistant Clerk

036/26 The next meeting of the Environment & Leisure Committee will be on 15th October.

Meeting closed at 8.47pm